1: Kolarz J-4 (no date) 1954 RR1 Siberia
AINU AB6
TUNGUS RU5
KORYAKS R44

A 208 691 871

Sakhalin which was entrusted, among other things, with 'raising the cultural and living standard of its native population', the Ainu in particular.[48]

208 191

Three years after the establishment of Soviet sovereignty over Karafuto Russian propaganda claimed that 'a revival of the ancient, original culture of the Ainu people' was noticeable, and that an 'Ainu national literary language' was in the process of being created.[49]

THE 'NATIONAL AREAS' OF THE EVENI AND KORYAKS

T 634 101 131 K 634 101 131

In 1930 three 'National Areas' were founded in the Far Eastern Territory, one for the Eveni (Lamuts), one for the Koryaks, and one for the Chukchi. The last two are still in existence, but the 'National Area' of the Eveni – Okhotsko-Evensky National Area was the official name – was disbanded after four years. It is doubtful whether the Eveni National Area, which covered 400,000 square miles, ever existed except on paper. The Eveni as a nomad people were not prepared to accept the notion of a territory with stable frontiers and a permanently fixed cultural and political centre. The attempt to erect such a centre, first in Okhotsk, later in Nogayevo, failed.[50] The National Area of the Eveni was formally abolished as a result of the progress which Russian colonization by convicts had made around the Okhotsk Sea in the early 'thirties'. By 1934 the proportion of natives in the population of the National Area had dropped to 40 per cent as against 80 per cent shortly before its foundation.

T K [167] T K [162]

T 634 101 131 161 K 634 101 131 161

The Koryak National Area has been able to survive because the Soviet authorities have not yet succeeded in fully exploiting its riches, and have not, up to now, swamped the area with convicts and other settlers. The Koryak National Area covers the northern part of the Kamchatka peninsula, and the adjacent part of the Asiatic mainland. It is 125,000 square miles in area, and had 11,400 inhabitants in 1926. Out of this total, 61 per cent were then Koryaks, 8·9 per cent Chukchi, 7·1 per cent Kamchadals, and 5·5 per cent Eveni. The Russians accounted for 14·3 per cent.

T 433 634 K 433 634

The leading Soviet expert on the arctic and sub-arctic regions of the Soviet Far East, M. A. Sergeev, considers that the Koryak National Area is, politically and economically, one of the most important parts of North East Asia, in view of its close proximity to Japan and the U.S.A. Sergeev, who wrote the only available monograph on the Koryak National Area, pointed out that the Area had a considerable part to play in Russian foreign trade, and that it could develop into a territory earning for the whole Soviet Union an appreciable amount of foreign currency.[51] Among the economic assets of the National Area Sergeev lists its riches in fish, reindeer and fur animals, as well as gold and oil. All these items should be used for export, whereas the chief importance

1: Kolarz J-4 (no date) 1954 RR1 Siberia
Tunqus RU5
Koryak RY4
Chukchee RY2

of 'Koryakia' for Soviet Far Eastern economy would lie in its extensive coal deposits. Although Sergeev gave very detailed data about the location of the deposits, it does not seem that exploitation has begun on any noteworthy scale.

The development of the Koryak National Area has lagged behind from the Russian communist point of view, not only in the economic, but also in the political sphere. The small Communist Party organization of the National Area, it is true, has issued statements on behalf of the tribesmen, abounding with such terms as 'dictatorship of the proletariat', or 'creation of a culture, national in form and socialist in content', but it does not seem that this has meant very much to the natives. The few communist agitators – in 1932 the Party organization had 120 members, including 'candidate members' – found it extremely difficult to encourage the class struggle among the Koryaks and other local tribes. The appearance in the National Area of State enterprises which were led and directed by Russians and other strangers, must have consolidated, rather than disintegrated, the primitive tribal unity comprising both the rich and the poor. Sergeev himself said that class consciousness, let alone class struggle, was practically absent in the Koryak National Area at the beginning of the 'thirties'. The 'kulaks', the well-to-do reindeer breeders, operated fairly successfully by stirring up hatred of the Russians, and by using 'tribal traditions, religious prejudices and superstitions' in their campaign against the new Soviet order. Soviet class war propaganda was countered by such simple but realistic phrases as 'rich and poor live together', or, 'the rich are feeding the poor'.

CHUKOTKA – THE RUSSIAN COLONY FACING ALASKA

The National Area of the Chukchi occupies the north-eastern tip of Asia facing Alaska, and is bordered by the Arctic Sea on the north, and the Bering Sea on the east and south. Several islands are part of the Chukcha National Area, including the Soviet island of Big Diomede, which is separated by only four miles from the Little Diomede, which belongs to the United States.*

The Soviet nationalities policy has done its best to take advantage of the indisputable geo-political importance of the Chukcha National Area – in short, Chukotka. This policy had to allow, in the first place, for the fact that the natives of Chukotka, both the Chukchi themselves and the Eskimos, who are related to them, had a long tradition of close economic co-operation with their American neighbours, whereas links between Russians and Chukchi had been tenuous.

* The Diomede Islands are also known as Ratmanov Island and Kruzenshtern Island respectively. Admiral Kruzenshtern commanded the first Russian round-the-world voyage and Ratmanov participated in this expedition.

636.10 -636.88

11: Kennan--203-204
116, 276, 437, 177.27
636.27

T-3 (1865) 1870

Koryak-1-2
Reindeer
Russia

"There is a peculiar fungus of this class in Siberia, known to the natives as 'muk-a-moor,' and as it possesses active intoxicating properties, it is used as a stimulant by nearly all the Siberian tribes. Taken in large quantities it is a violent narcotic poison; but in small doses it produces all the effects of alcoholic liquor. Its habitual use, however, completely shatters the nervous system, and its sale by Russian traders to the natives has consequently been made a penal offence by Russian law. In spite of all prohibitions, the trade is still secretly carried on, and I have seen twenty dollars worth of furs bought with a single fungus. The Koraks would gather it for themselves, but it requires the shelter of timber for its growth, and is not to be found on the barren steppes over which they wander; so that they are obliged for the most part to buy it, at enormous prices, from the Russian traders. It may sound strangely to American ears, but the invitation which a convivial Korak [204] extends to his passing friend is not, 'Come in and have a drink,' but, 'Won't you come in and take a toadstool?' Not a very alluring proposal perhaps to a civilized toper, but one which has a magical effect upon a dissipated Korak. As the supply of these toadstools is by no means equal to the demand, Korak ingenuity has been greatly exercised in the endeavor to economize the precious stimulant, and make it go as far as possible. Sometimes, in the course of human events, it becomes imperatively necessary that a whole band shall get drunk together, and they have only one toadstool to do it with. For a description of the manner in which this band

gets drunk collectively and individually upon one fungus, and keeps drunk for a week, the curious reader is referred to Goldsmith's 'Citizen of the World,' Letter 32. It is but just to say, however, that this horrible practice is almost entirely confined to the settled Koraks of Penzhinsk Gulf--the lowest, most degraded portion of the whole tribe. It may prevail to a limited extent among the wandering natives, but I never heard of more than one such instance outside of the Penzhinsk Gulf settlements."

11: Kennan--54
116, 651, 177.65
636.65

T-3 (1865) 1870

Koryak
Russia

"The government under which all the inhabitants of Kamtchatka nominally live is administered by a Russian officer called an 'Ispravnik' or local governor, who is supposed to settle all questions of law which may arise between individuals or tribes, and to collect the annual 'yassák' or tax of furs, which is levied upon every male inhabitant in his province. He resides in Petropavlovski, and owing to the extent of country over which he has jurisdiction and the imperfect facilities which it affords for getting about, he is seldom seen outside of the village where he has his head-quarters."